

French Creek riparian fencing
FUTURE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION
(please fill in the highlighted areas)

I: APPLICANT INFORMATION

- A. Applicant Name: Emma Cayer
- B. Mailing Address: 730 N Montana St
- C. City: Dillon State: MT Zip: 59725
Telephone: 406-925-3050 E-mail: ecayer@mt.gov
- D. Contact Person: Emma Cayer
Address if different from Applicant: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____
- E. Landowner and/or Lessee Name (if other than Applicant): FWP
Mailing Address: 1820 Meadowlark Lane
City: Butte State: MT Zip: 59701
Telephone: 406-494-1953 E-mail: vboccadori@mt.gov

II. PROJECT INFORMATION*

- A. Project Name: French Creek Riparian Pasture Fence
River, stream, or lake: French Creek
Location: Township: 2N Range: 12W Section: 1,2,3,10
Latitude: 45.952552 Longitude: -113.048503 within project (decimal degrees)
County: Deerlodge
- B. Purpose of Project:
The purpose of this project is to construct a riparian pasture fence to limit livestock impacts to French Creek on the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area.
- C. Brief Project Description: _____

In 2015, a 2-mile section of Highway 569 (which runs from Anaconda to the Big Hole River through the Mount Haggin Wildlife Management Area) was relocated to restore the riparian area around French Creek. The highway was moved to a dry bench southeast of its original location and the old roadbed was removed and reclaimed (Figure 1). The old highway and the fence on the west side of the highway formed the border of the "Salt Ridge Pasture" which is part of a 6-pasture rest-rotation grazing system outlined in the Mount Haggin South Grazing Plan. This stretch of fence runs through the French Creek riparian area, a natural travel corridor for moose. It is in poor condition and in many places no longer functioning. It was constructed in the 1980's and consists of jacks and wire; many of the jacks have rotted and fallen down. With the relocation of the highway out of the riparian area, the fence is no longer easily accessible to maintain and repair. For these reasons, we want to take this opportunity to relocate this pasture fence west of the French Creek riparian area. This new location would be on a bluff, allowing for unimpeded movement of moose and other wildlife through the riparian area, minimize livestock impacts, and be easier to access and make repairs.

Through collaboration between wildlife and fisheries within FWP a proposal was develop to relocate the Salt Ridge Pasture fence to the north away from the stream and exclude livestock grazing from the entire riparian area of French Creek from the confluence of California Creek to the Highway 569 crossing (Figure 3). The proposed fence is approximately 2.4 miles and would be a combination of lay down fence (50%) to accommodate seasonal wildlife movements and winter recreation on Mt Haggin, and traditional wildlife-friendly fence (50%). The newly created riparian pasture would exclude livestock grazing on over 2 miles of French Creek and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife.

French Creek is currently a rainbow trout and brook trout fishery. However; a fish barrier will be constructed on lower French Creek in 2017 and the stream will be restored to a native fishery with the reintroduction of westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling. The proposed riparian fence is also located adjacent to a reach of French Creek where stream restoration is proposed. French Creek was straightened during the late 1800's and early 1900's as part of placer mining practices that occurred throughout the area. Although funding has not been secured for restoration in this reach of stream, we are hopeful that restoration will proceed in the next 5 years. This fence would aid in the recovery of vegetation following restoration of this reach of stream because livestock would be excluded from the riparian area.

D. Length of stream or size of lake that will be treated: Approximately 2.3 miles

E. Project Budget:

Grant Request (Dollars): \$ \$10,000.00

Contribution by Applicant (Dollars): \$ \$14,056.40 - Fisheries Division In-kind \$
(salaries of government employees are not considered as matching contributions)

Contribution from other Sources (Dollars): \$ \$14,056.40 - Wildlife Division In-kind \$
(attach verification - See page 2 budget template)

Total Project Cost: \$ \$38,112.80

F. Attach itemized (line item) budget – see template

- G. Attach specific project plans, detailed sketches, plan views, photographs, maps, evidence of landowner consent, evidence of public support and fish biologist support, and/or other information necessary to evaluate the merits of the project. If project involves water leasing or water salvage complete supplemental questionnaire (fwp.mt.gov/habitat/futurefisheries/supplement2.doc).
- H. Attach land management and maintenance plans that will ensure protection of the reclaimed area.

III. PROJECT BENEFITS*

- A. What species of fish will benefit from this project?:

Currently: rainbow trout and eastern brook trout. After French Creek Barrier is installed in 2017: westslope cutthroat trout and Arctic grayling

- B. How will the project protect or enhance wild fish habitat?:

The project will exclude livestock grazing on over 2 miles of the French Creek Riparian area allowing the streambank vegetation to recover and bank stability to improve.

- C. Will the project improve fish populations and/or fishing? To what extent?:

The project will protect existing fish habitat from the impacts of grazing through exclusion. This will reduce sediment loading, and improve riparian vegetation, floodplain function and bank stabilization. Over time, improved riparian function will likely increase the habitat carrying capacity in this section of stream benefiting the fisheries within and downstream of the project reach.

- D. Will the project increase public fishing opportunity for wild fish and, if so, how?:

This project is located on public land and is open to angling. Habitat improvement through this project will benefit anglers indirectly by providing enhanced conditions for wild fish.

- E. The project agreement includes a 20-year maintenance commitment. If you are unable to meet this commitment, please explain why:

- F. What was the cause of habitat degradation in the area of this project and how will the project correct the cause?:

There are 2 main causes of habitat degradation in the project area. The first and greatest impact has been placer mining. It is our hope that future restoration projects will address the impacts of mining. The other impact is livestock grazing. Several areas within the proposed riparian fence show impacts from livestock grazing. In particular, livestock tend to group along the stream in the west side of the pasture in the heat of the summer. Concentrated livestock use in this area has caused streambank erosion and increased sediment loading the stream.

- G. What public benefits will be realized from this project?:

The public will benefit through improved riparian conditions which will result in improved aquatic habitat and fisheries in the area.

- H. Will the project interfere with water or property rights of adjacent landowners? (explain):

No

- I. Will the project result in the development of commercial recreational use on the site?: (explain):

No

- J. Is this project associated with the reclamation of past mining activity?:

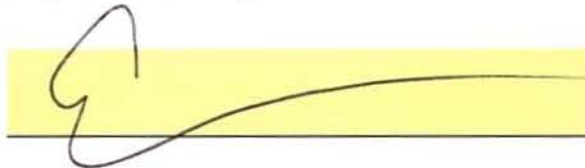
No, not directly. But indirectly it does exclude grazing from a mined reach of stream and will aid in reducing livestock impacts to potential future restoration efforts.

Each approved project sponsor must enter into a written agreement with the Department specifying terms and duration of the project.

IV. AUTHORIZING STATEMENT

I (we) hereby declare that the information and all statements to this application are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my (our) knowledge and that the project or activity complies with rules of the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Applicant Signature:



Date:

11-30-15

Sponsor (if applicable):

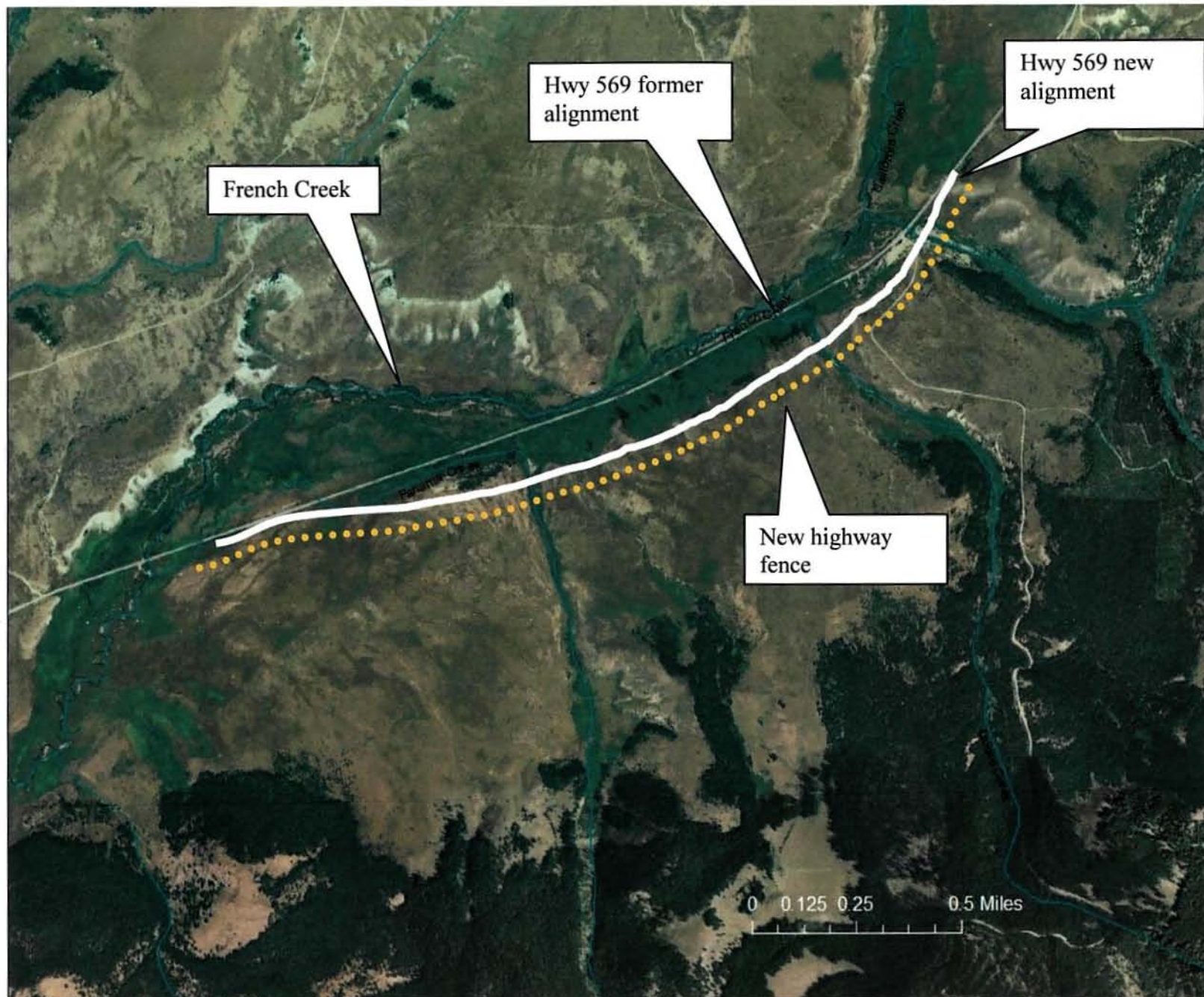
***Highlighted boxes will automatically expand.**

**Mail To: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Habitat Protection Bureau
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701**

**E-mail To: Michelle McGree
mmcgree@mt.gov
(electronic submissions MUST be signed)**

**Incomplete or late applications will be returned to applicant.
Applications may be rejected if this form is modified.**

*****Applications may be submitted at anytime, but must be received by the Future Fisheries Program office in Helena before December 1 and June 1 of each year to be considered for the subsequent funding period.*****



Revised July 16, 2015

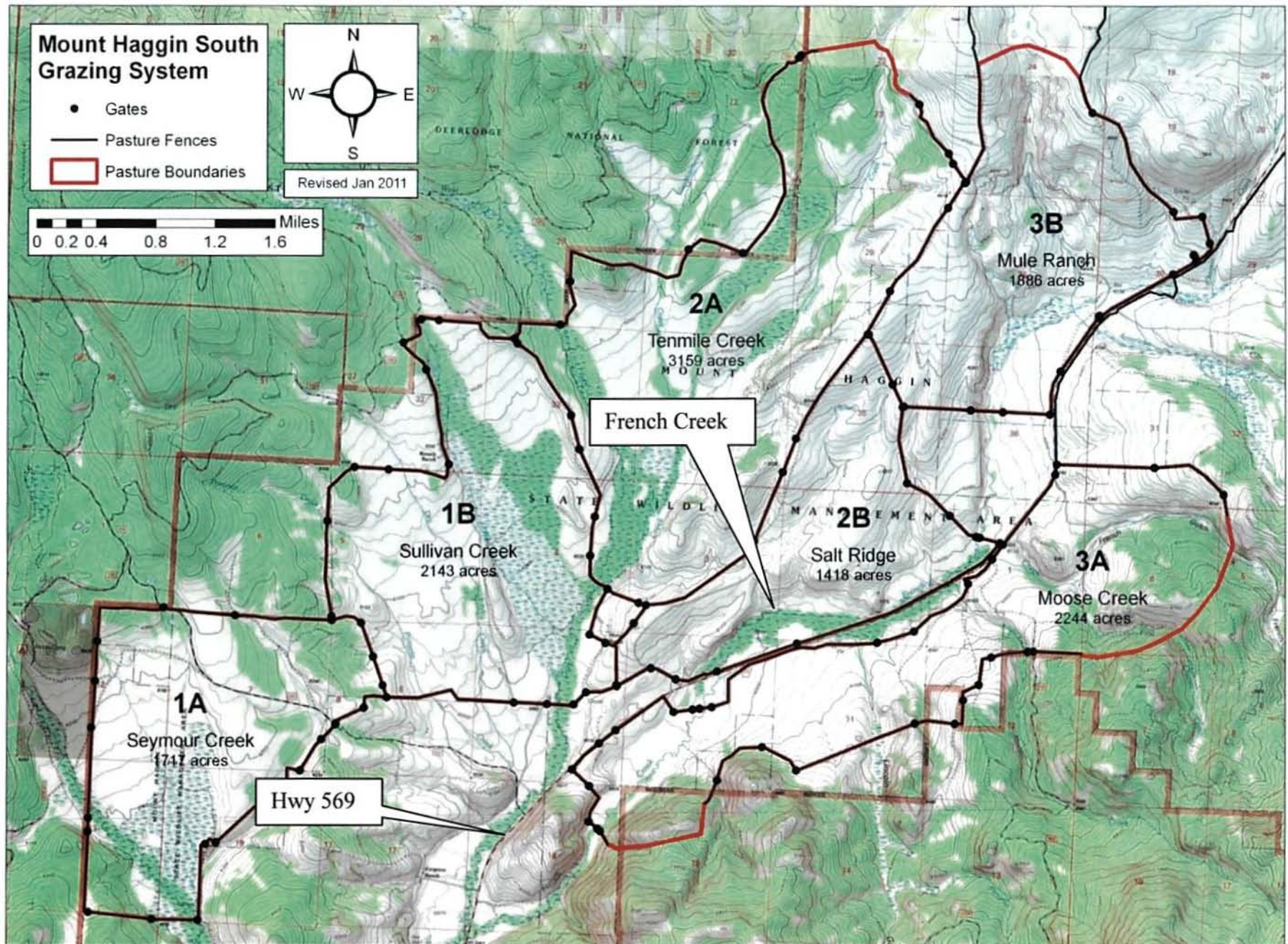


Figure 2. MT Haggin South Grazing System Map and the French Creek area showing existing pasture fences.

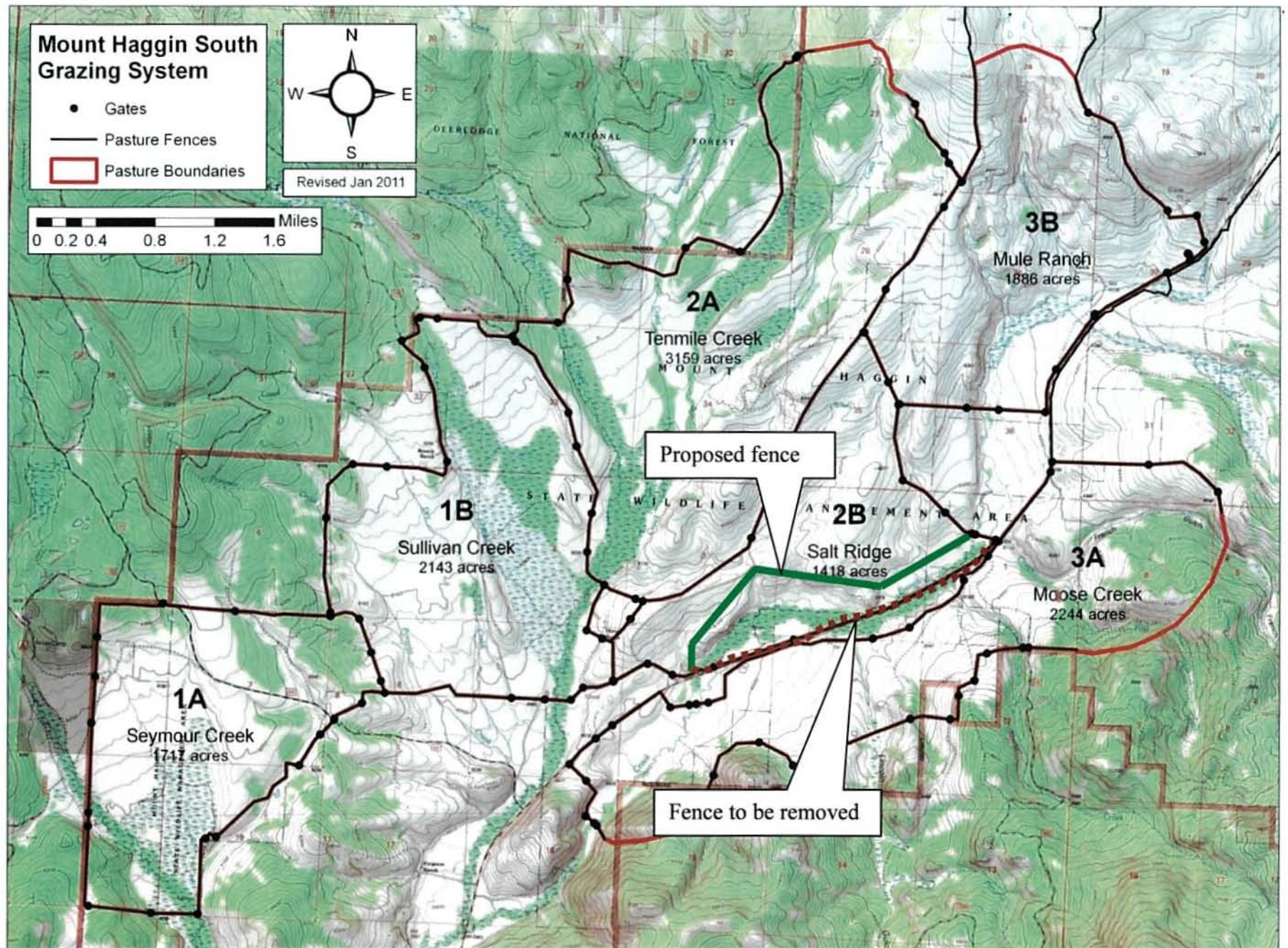


Figure 3. MT Haggin South Grazing System Map and the French Creek area showing the proposed fence to exclude livestock grazing from the riparian area.

BUDGET TEMPLATE SHEET FOR FUTURE FISHERIES PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Both tables must be completed or the application will be returned

WORK ITEMS (ITEMIZE BY CATEGORY)	NUMBER OF UNITS	UNIT DESCRIPTION*	COST/UNIT	TOTAL COST	CONTRIBUTIONS			
					FUTURE FISHERIES REQUEST	IN-KIND SERVICES**	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL
Personnel								
Survey-				\$ -				\$ -
Design -				\$ -				\$ -
Engineering				\$ -				\$ -
Permitting				\$ -				\$ -
Oversight				\$ -				\$ -
Labor -				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel								
Mileage				\$ -				\$ -
Per diem				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Construction Materials***								
Permanent Barbed Wire Fence								
3-barbed, 1-smooth wire fence *	6336	feet	\$ 2.25	\$ 14,256.00				
12-foot wire gates	3	each	\$ 100.00	\$ 300.00				
2-post H braces (treated wood posts)	5	each	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00				
3-post H braces (treated wood posts)	4	each	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,000.00				
Jackleg brace panels (bark-on 5'.5" jacks)	2	each	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,200.00				
SUBTOTAL				\$ 17,756.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 12,756.00	\$17,756.00
Lay-Down Barbed Wire Fence								
3-wire barbed, 1-wire smooth *	6,336	feet	\$ 2.55	\$ 16,156.80				
2-post H braces (treated wood posts)	5	each	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00				
3-post H braces (treated wood posts)	4	each	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,000.00				
Jackleg brace panels (bark-on 5'.5" jacks)	2	each	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,200.00				
SUBTOTAL				\$ 19,356.80	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 14,356.80	\$ 19,356.80
* spacing: 42" high, 18" from bottom, 12"-6"-6" spacing between wires				\$ -				
			Sub-Total	\$ 37,112.80	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 27,112.80	\$ 37,112.80
Equipment								
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mobilization								
Mobilization fee	1	each	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00			1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
				\$ -				\$ -
			Sub-Total	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
TOTALS					\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 28,112.80	\$ 38,112.80

*Units = feet, hours, inches, lump sum, etc.

**Can include in-kind materials. Justification for in-kind labor (e.g. hourly rates used for calculations). Describe here or in text.

***The Future Fisheries Review Panel recommends a maximum fencing cost of \$1.50 per foot

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS (do not include requested funds)

CONTRIBUTOR	IN-KIND SERVICE	IN-KIND CASH	TOTAL	Verified? (Y/N)
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks - Fisheries Division		\$ 14,056.40	\$ 14,056.40	N*
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks - Wildlife Division		\$ 14,056.40	\$ 14,056.40	N*
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
*Both Wildlife and Fisheries are confident that funding will be secured	\$ -	\$ 28,112.80	\$ 28,112.80	